

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln

---

Nebraska 4-H Clubs: Historical Materials and Publications

4-H Youth Development

---

1930

## Clothing Club Demonstration : Extension Circular 4-13-2

Mary Borreson

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/a4hhistory>



Part of the [Service Learning Commons](#)

---

Borreson, Mary, "Clothing Club Demonstration : Extension Circular 4-13-2" (1930). *Nebraska 4-H Clubs: Historical Materials and Publications*. 123.

<https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/a4hhistory/123>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 4-H Youth Development at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Nebraska 4-H Clubs: Historical Materials and Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Revised  
1930

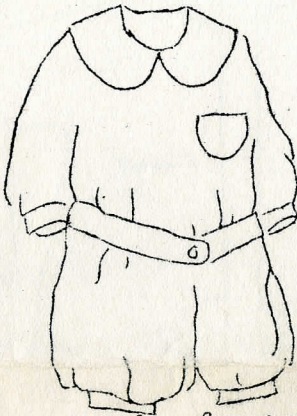
Nebraska  
COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK  
IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS  
U. of N. Agr. College & U. S. Dept. of Agr. Cooperating  
W. H. Brokaw, Director, Lincoln

Extension  
Circular  
4-13-2

### CLOTHING CLUB DEMONSTRATION

#### Problem XIII REMAKING A GARMENT

The garment that you ~~remake~~ may be for yourself or for some one else. Since you have planned your wardrobe, you may have discovered you do not need a garment of this sort so it may be made for a child if you wish, for frequently an adult's garment can be made over for a younger brother or sister when there would not be enough material for you.



Remodeling a garment will frequently take more time and more skill than to make a garment out of new material. However, it may pay because it saves the price of new material and it prevents storing old material. Then, too, made-over garments may be as attractive or even more so than new ones. To have the remodeling economical the old materials must be good enough to pay for the time and energy put upon it. Two old garments may be combined. To have the final result attractive do careful planning.

We might say there are two types of remodeling, for you may ~~change~~ a garment completely or you may ~~change~~ some part of it; such as, shortening the skirt, adding a new collar and belt, or changing the sleeves, etc. The plan for this problem is for you to do the first type of remodeling. If so far in these problems you have not made anything of woolen material do so now if possible. How many other garments can you add to this list?

<u>Garment</u>	<u>After Alteration</u>
Woman's long coat.....	Short coat, child's coat, skirt, one piece dress.
Woman's suit.....	Suit for a girl or boy, one piece dress, dress for girl.
Man's suit.....	Boy's suit
Man's trousers.....	Boy's trousers.
Man's coat (long).....	Child's suit or coat
Woman's dress.....	Remodeled by combining with other materials. Jumper dress with blouse. Little girl's dress.
Man's Shirt.....	Rompers or child's dress.
Wool skirt.....	Child's coat. Bloomers.
Wash skirt.....	Contrasting material used to lengthen or widen for pockets, belt, etc. Rompers, petticoat or aprons.

#### Steps in Making Over a Garment

1. Dusting and ripping.
2. Cleaning and pressing
3. Dyeing.
4. Selecting pattern.
5. Mending
6. Cutting, fitting and making
7. Pressing
8. Suggestive finishes.



Dusting and ripping: Look the garment over carefully. Shake it well and then brush it thoroly especially along the seams. Do not use pieces that are worn shiny if they can be avoided. Study its possibilities and plan to use the material to its best advantage. It would be interesting to take your garment to a club meeting and there have a discussion on plans for using it. In a club, one often finds girls who are quite clever in seeing the possibilities in making over garments.

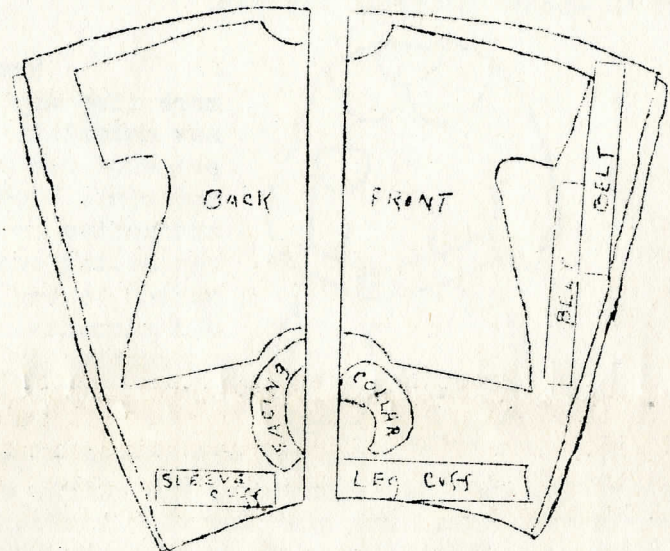
Remove all the trimmings, such as braid and buttons, rip out the hem and rip the seams. Do not spend time ripping small pieces unless you think you will need to use them. If there is sufficient material the seams may be cut off instead of ripping them. Use you time to advantage. In ripping pull the threads where possible, where this can not be done, cut the threads carefully, for it is easier to be careful than to mend later. Sharp scissors or a small razor blade may be used. Adhesive tape may be placed over one of the sharp edges of the scissors in order to make them easier to handle. Pick out all the threads before steaming as this will help the needle holes to disappear more quickly.

Inspect each piece for spots. If any are found it will save time to have them marked by running a thread around before the piece is cleaned. Then they can be given special care in the cleaning. If there are no spots, the woolen material may be freshened by pressing with a piece of damp heavy cloth over the material. Cleaning may be done by various methods such as using gasoline, dry cleaner, a commercial cleaner or washing in soap and water.

If the garment is to be washed, use soft water and a good white soap. It is better not to rub the soap on the goods for this felts the wool and makes it harsh. Instead of rubbing the soap on the goods make a good lather of lukewarm water and rinse it in water the same temperature. Some good laundries leave a little soap in the last water or a tablespoon of glycerine to make the wool feel more natural. It is better to dip the cloth up and down and squeeze it than to rub it between the hands as one would a cotton garment. When the pieces are pressed one needs to be careful not to stretch them out of shape.

Gasoline, benzine or alcohol may be used to remove grease spots. Use these cleaners only out of doors away from heat or flame and rub the spot gently until the fabric is entirely dry. This will prevent leaving a ring in the material. If a commercial cleaner is used, follow the directions exactly as they are given.

If the garment needs to be dyed, you may have a dyer do it, or you may do it yourself. A different type of dye is used for cotton and linen than for wool and silk. Therefore, judgment should be used in selecting the dye. The process is simple but the work must be done with great care and according to directions for satisfactory results. Have the goods wet when added to the dye bath and keep





material in constant motion while dyeing and entirely covered by the dye bath.

Selecting the pattern is the part that taxes one's ingenuity for it will require care in selecting an attractive style that can be made from pieces. Simple styles are usually most effective, then too it does not pay to spend too much time on old material. "Simplicity is the soul of good taste".

After selecting a pattern study its directions carefully and then have it tested on the person for size. If any alterations are needed, make them. Review pages 65 and 66. Pin every piece on the material before any of them are cut. Think over all of the different points we have studied in our Club Work about placing patterns and cutting out goods. If piecing has to be done plan to have it come at seams, or under tucks, or trimming.

Pressing is fully as important here as it is in any other garment. Pressing the placket before the fastenings are sewed in place as well as other such places will make the garment look more tailor-made.

Find all the weak places by holding the pieces up to the light and pulling the material carefully. Do you find any thin spots that need to be reinforced to make them wear longer? If there is mending or darning to be done, the material will need to be carefully pressed after it is darned, before the pattern is laid on it.

Pressing is an important factor in making a woolen garment look tailored. To do this one needs good irons and well padded ironing boards. Review pages 112 and 113. Some of the best dressmaking shops as well as the best sewing teachers have the girls press seams, plackets, etc., soon after they are made. They do not wait until the garment is all done and then press it only once. They press each step as it is completed, and then at the end give the garment a good final pressing. Good pressing is one of the secrets for making a garment look as though a tailor made it instead of an amateur.

In placing the pattern on the cloth, review the directions about patterns on page 23. If for any reason you do not have these lessons, new copies may be obtained by writing to the Extension Agent. If your material has an up and down and a right and wrong, how will you have to cut it to prevent two pieces being for the same side? If you are using broad cloth plan to have the nap of the cloth go down. Have the straight of the pattern on the straight of the goods. No amount of fitting can ever make it look well tailored if it is cut "off grain". Pin pattern firmly. THINK before you cut to prevent mistakes. If any piecing has to be done it should come at the seams or under tucks.

When cutting the goods, review page 23. Plan to save as much material as you can, altho you have plenty of it. How much does the pattern allow for seams?

Do the basting on a table rather than in your lap. Pin seams carefully and do not stretch them. Work with the bias edge on top when basting. If the seams, tucks, folds and notches are well marked it will help the parts go together more easily, thus adding to the pleasure of making the garment. The under side of the seam turns toward the front. Do you remember that this is what the shoulder and underarm seams did also? The various methods for marking seams could be used for a good demonstration.



So far in our work we have made plain (bound or overcasted) false French, and Flat-felled seams. Would any of these be good for the skirt you are making? Consult mother and the club leader. Why are French seams not as good for woolen material? There are several other methods for making seams which you may learn when you take work in College. Only two new ones will be explained here. These are the cord seam and the tuck seam.

The cord seam is made by having a plain seam basted and stitched. It is then pressed with the under edges turned toward the front. A row of basting is placed  $1/16$  to  $1/4$  inch in front of the first stitching. A row of stitching is then placed near the basting. This will give a splendid place to show what good stitching you can do. Can you suggest any reasons why one would not want to use a very short stitch on the machine for a place like this? The edges of the seam may be bound or overcasted. If the material is broadcloth it will not fray, so may be finished by notching. By this we mean a plain seam of which the edges are cut in notches and the seam pressed flat.

The tuck seam is the same as the cord seam except that the plain seam (first stitching) is only basted, not stitched. When the seam is finished, the first basting is removed, and this leaves a tuck. Can you make a sample of each of these seams? To make seams look their best, they should be basted with care, stitched and then pressed.

Last but not least - Press Well

(Prepared by Mary K. Borreson.

Approved by the Dept. of Home Economics)